#83-15 Service Date: April 16, 1982

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

READING FILE.

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IN THE MATTER Of The Application Of COLUMBIA HEIGHTS WATER CO. For Authorization To Increase Water Rates.

UTILITY DIVISION DOCKET NO. 82.3.20

## ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE

- 1. Columbia Heights Water Company is a public utility as defined by Section 69-3-101, MCA, and as such is subject to regulation by the Montana Public Service Commission pursuant to 69-3-102, MCA.
- 2. On March 29, 1982 Columbia Heights Water Company alleged it had completed a request for authorization to increase water rates with this Commission.
- 3. Prior to that time, the Commission staff had attempted, on an informal basis, to obtain from Columbia Heights Water Company additional financial data needed to analyze the proposed increase in water rates, including annual reports that have not been filed for 1980 and 1981.
- 4. Columbia Heights Water Company, in a letter from its attorney, John H. Bothe, states the only financial data available is the data submitted with the application and that any additional financial data that is necessary will be submitted through oral testimony at the hearing.
- 5. The Commission staff requested that the Commission issue an Order To Show Cause why the application should not be dismissed if Columbia Heights Water Company could not supply:

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- Operating statements for the last two (2) years of actual operation.
- 2) Balance sheets for the last two (2) years.
- 3) Annual Reports as required in 69-3-203, MCA, for the years 1980 and 1981.
- 6. The Commission on April 13, 1982 granted the staff's request for issuance of an Order To Show Cause.
- 7. Mr. William Gress is the principal owner of Columbia Heights Water Company.

NOW THEREFORE IT IS ORDERED that Columbia Heights Water Company and Mr. William Gress shall have ten (10) days from the receipt of this Order in which to show cause why the Commission should not dismiss the pending water rate increase application if the data outlined in Item 5 of this Order is not submitted.

Columbia Heights Water Company and William Gress are further notified that should they wish to contest the allegations in this Order they have an opportunity for a public hearing to consider the same. A request for such hearing must be conveyed to the Commission at its offices at 1227 - 11th Avenue, Helena, Montana, within ten (10) days of receipt of this Order.

DONE at Helena, Montana this 13th day of April, 1982.

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John B. Driscoll, Commissioner

Howard L. Ellis, Commissioner

Clyde Jarvis Commissioner

Thomas J. Schneider, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Madeline X. Courie

Madeline L. Cottrill Commission Secretary

(SEAL)